RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HURSLEY.

Hursley,

Medical Officer of Health
J. Lockhart Livingston, M.D.

Near. WINCHESTER.

5th June 1924.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1923.

Gentlemen,

I have to submit the following Report prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health for the year 1923 :-

1. General Statistics.

Area (acres) 16,756 Population (1923) 4604

Number of inhabited houses (1921) 1078.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 1099.

Rateable Value £38,322 (assessable £35,554)
Sum represented by a penny rate. £148. 2.10d.

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate	93.	44	49	Birth rate 20.63
	Illegitimate	2.	1	1	
Deaths		51.	27	24	Death rate 11.07

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth — from Sepsis 0. " other causes 1.

Death of infants under one year of age per 1000 births :-

Legitimate 63.15. Illegitimate 0. Total 63.15

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 0.

" " Whooping Cough " 2.

" " Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) 0.

The Deaths from Nephritis (acute and Chronic)—five males and one female - equal those from Cancer, (six) those from Bronchitis six, and exceed those from Heart Disease, five: this appears to me to be unusual.

3. Notifiable Diseases, during the Year.

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases removed to hospital.	Total deaths.
Diphtheria	12.	6.	0.
Scarlet fever	13.	4.	0.
Pneumonia	1.	0.	0.
Erysipelas	1.	0.	0.

Of the Diphtheria cases two were from 4 to 5, four from 5 to 10, two from 10 to 15, three from 15 to 20, and one from 20 to 35 years, of age. Three cases were in one family, six in another, and two in another. In the first group there were eight persons living in five rooms. and in the second group, ten persons living in five rooms.

Of the Scarlet Fever Cases 4 were in 4 separate families, in one instance four persons, living in six rooms, in another, seven persons in five rooms, and in a third, four persons in five rooms, in the fourth, eight persons in six rooms. In two instances where there were two cases of Scarlet fever in each family; seven persons lived in five rooms, and six persons in six rooms. In one instance, there were four cases in one family, and in this dwelling, eight persons lived in five rooms. In one instance, a second case of Scarlet fever occurred within a fortnight of the return of another case from the Infectious Hospital (at Southampton)

The chief difficulty was—apart from the difficulty of securing proper isolation - the mildness and indefiniteness of the signs and symptoms of the disease in most instances; indeed in a number of cases the diagnosis was in doubt for several days. All the cases recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Age periods.	M	F	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 - 5								1 (19 mos)
5 - 10				1 (5)				
10 - 15		1 (13)						
15 - 20		2 (18,15)						
25 - 35	1 (25)	1 (28)						
35 - 45		1 (40)						
45 - 55	1 (48)							
55 - 65	2(62 & 58)				1 (58)			
Totals	4	5		1	1			1

Of the two deaths from Tuberculosis, one had not been notified a child aged 19 mos dying in Hospital of Tubercular Meningitis.

Tuberculosis Contd.

A few cases escape Notification, but considering the difficulty of Exact Diagnosis, this is not surprising. No special steps have been taken to secure more complete Notification, and no proceedings have been needed.

No excessive incidence or mortality in any particular occupatio

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case notified. Treated at home. Vision unimpaired,

4. Causes of Sickness.

No specially noteworthy causes of sickness or Invalidity.

5. Summary (for Reference) of Nursing Arrangements.

Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District Professional Nursing in the Home (a) General (b) For Infectious Diseases. Only private Nurses available. No arrangements by the Local Authority.

Midwives. No arrangements by Public Health Authority. There are five Midwives known to be practising in the District. Clinics and Treatment Centres. None in the District. Hospitals provided or subsidised by the local Authority or by the County Council (1) Tuberculosis. The Co. Council Sanatorium (formerly Hursley Poor Law Institution) is situated at Chandlersford, and admits cases from outside the District. Accommodation for 40 patients.

(2) Maternity. A few mostly operative cases admitted to Winchester Hospital (Voluntary). (3) Children. None. (4) Fever. The Eastleigh and Bishopstoke Urban District Infectious Hospital is situated at Chandlersford, but only admits cases from its own District. Accommodation for about twelve cases, ordinarily, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric.

(5) Small Pox. There is a small building in Hursley parish, belonging to the Co. Council who are responsible for Small Pox cases in the district.

(6) Other. Royal Hants Co. Hospital, Winchester, and Royal Southampton Hospital, and Romsey Cottage Hospital used by District.

No Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the District.

Ambulance facilties (a) For infectious cases. Cases admitted to Southampton Boro' Infectious Hospital are conveyed there in their Motor ambulance, at a charge of a guinea.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases. Winchester Hospital has a Motor ambulance which can be hired for cases requiring it, and I believe a Red Cross Ambulance at Eastleigh can be hired, but as a rule motor cars - either private or hired - are used for conveying cases to Hospital &c.

6. Laboratory Work.

Bacteriological examination of Sputum and Throat Swabs is carried out at the Hants Co. Council Public Health laboratory. I have Reports of 7 Positive Throat Swabs, 75 Negative, and 3 doubtful. Two positive specimens of (T.B.) Sputum, and four negative. 1 Wassermann test, Negative. 1 Ringworm, Negative. Diphtheria Antitoxin supplied by the Council, also Tetanus Antitoxim if necessary.

7. Sanitary Administration.

Adoptive Acts. The Infectious diseases (Prevention) Act 1890, adopted many years ago. Secs 169 and 170, Public Health Act, 1875, and Secs 29,30,31, Public Health Acts (amendment) Act 1890, relating to Slaughter houses in force since 1923. Revised Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order in force from 25th March 1914. New Bye-laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings approved by the Ministry of Health, Mar. 24, 1923 (This-I believe - is the fourth set of Bye-Laws since 1892) Bye-laws for Slaughter houses approved 25 Sep, 1922. Bye-laws for Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures approved 28th Nov. 1922.

A Tabular summary of the work of the Sanitary Department is appended, and of action taken under the Public Health Acts &c.

No places in the District where food is prepared are known

The two Slaughter houses have been inspected and found fairly clean; they are now to be Registered.

Disinfection is carried out after each case of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric and Tuberculosis, and also on removal to Infectious Hospital or Sanatorium. Formaldehyde is the disinfectant used. 29 houses or parts of houses were disinfected and one Public Elementary School.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops are inspected, there is still need for improvement in the cleansing of the cows' flanks, and udders before milking. Three samples of Milk taken by the Co. Council's Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act were found to be genuine, also five samples of butter.

Re-registration is still being carried out.

The principal workshops are the Bakehouses of which there are now only three in the District; they are inspected from time to time, and found to be in order.

Notice was received from H.M.Inspector of Factories as to the want of Sanitary accommodation at a Factory Saw-Mill. On visiting the place, I found there was no Abstract of the Factory Acts posted up, although a young person under eighteen was employed, and so informed H.M.Inspector. Sec. 22. Public Health Acts (amendment) Act, 1890, not being in force in the District as I am informed - it devolves on H.M.Inspector - and not on the Council to see that the necessary Sanitary accommodation is provided.

No action called for with a view to Smoke Abatement.

8. Public Health Staff.

There has been no change in the Staff, which consists of the part-time M.O.H., and the Inspector - who is also Surveyor, the duties of these two appointments occupying his whole time, owing to the increase of the work of the Surveyor, there is not always sufficient time for Sanitary work. I regret that the Council have not seen their way to provide some office or clerical assistance.

I feel sure that the work of the M.O.H. and also of the Inspector and Surveyor would be rendered much more valuable if there were assistance given in writing letters, keeping records, and storing

important documents : After about 35 years' experience of Public Health Work in Rural Districts, I am convinced that this is more important than to have a whole time Medical Officer of Health. I hope to see a revival of this former development before the end of my tenure of Office.

9. Housing.

No. of new houses erected during the year :-

a. Total 41. (Mostly detached bungalows)

b. With State Assistance under the Housing Acts 1919 or 1923

i. by the Local Authority None

ii. by other bodies or persons None

1. Unfit dwelling houses.

Inspection (1) Total no. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 78.

(2) No. of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910. 46, and 9 re-inspection.

(3) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation None.

(4) No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 69.

2. Remedy of Defects without service of formal Notices. No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers Ten. (Many others rendered fit in 1924.)

3. Action under Statutory Powers

A. Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning &c. Act 1919.

1. No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 18.

2. No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit :-

a. by owners 17

b. by local Authority in default of owners 0

3. No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close. None.

B. Proveedings under Public Health Acts.

1. No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. None.

2. No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied :-

a. by owners. None.

b. By Local Authority in default of owners. None.

c. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning &c. Act 1909. None.

Your obedient Servant.

J. LOCKHART LIVINGSTON.

Hampshire County Council.

Library ASSOCIATION

Rural District of Hursley.

[redacted].—SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1923

		Number of		Abatement Notices		Nuisances Abated after Notices by		
		Inspections and Observations made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority	Inspector	Authority	Nuisance Remaining Unabated
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Foul Conditions	78	[illegible]	28	18	10	17	42
	Structural Defects ...	30	15	15	9	6	8	1
	Over-crowding	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Unfit for Habitation ...	1	1	1	-	1	-	-
	Lodging-houses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Dairies and Milkshops ...) Cowsheds ... ...)	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Bakehouses	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
	Slaughter-houses	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
	Canal Boats	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ashpits and Privies ...	30	15	15	9	6	8	1
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	2	2	2.				
	Water-closets							
House Drainage	Defective Traps							
	No Disconnection ...							
	Other Faults	3	2	2				
	Water Supply	12	8	8				
	Pigsties							
	Animals improperly kept ...							
	Offensive Trades							
	Smoke Nuisances ...							
	Other Nuisances	1	1	1				
	Totals							

Complaints received ....31....

Seizures of Unwholesome Food....-....

Samples of Food taken for Analysis....-....

" " found Adulterated....-....

" of Water taken for Analysis....-....

" " Condemned as Unfit for Use....-....

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed....-....

Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease....29....

Schools ditto ditto ....1....

Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease ....-....

Convictions ditto ditto ....-....

Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things ....-....

Convictions ditto ditto ....-....

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

INSPECTION OF HOUSES.

Is there any scarcity of houses, and where? ..... Chandlers Fr. .....

Number of new houses built in 192 ..... 1 ..... General Character ..... [illegible] Bungalows.

Any Town Planning Scheme contemplated ..... No. .....

Who has been designated as the Inspecting Officer under Article II. of the Housing Regulations, 1910? ..... J. P. Game. .....

Are records submitted to L.A. at each meeting? ..... Yes. .....

	Number
Houses inspected	78
Section 17.	
Dwelling-houses found unfit for human habitation	No proceedings taken under these sections.
Representations made	
Closing Order made	
Houses made habitable without Closing Orders	
Houses made habitable as result of Closing Orders	
Houses demolished	
Houses unfit but still occupied	
Section 15.	
Defects reported	69
Defects remedied	28
Notices served	0 served. (notices under sec. 26, H. & T. P. act 1919).